

FORM PTO-1449 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE <i>RECEIVED FEB 11 2002 U.S. PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE</i>	ATTY. DOCKET NO. VITLCOM.066A3	APPLICATION NO. 09/853,904
		APPLICANTS Carter, et al.	
		FILING DATE May 11, 2001	GROUP ART UNIT 3736

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
JPO	3,919,644	11/11/75	Smolka	—	—	11/11/02
	4,186,347	01/29/80	Brockman, et al.	—	—	1/29/80
	4,492,962	01/08/85	Hansen	—	—	1/8/85
	4,539,710	09/03/85	Dinsmore	—	—	
	4,741,341	05/03/88	Marach	—	—	
	5,748,103	05/05/98	Flach, et al.	—	—	
	5,944,659	08/31/99	Flach, et al.	—	—	
	6,121,940	09/19/00	Skahill, et al.	—	—	
✓	US 6,263,235 B1	07/17/01	Kaiser, et al.	—	—	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
JPO	EP 1 038 497 A1	09/27/00	European	—	—		

**EXAMINER INITIAL**

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)**

~~Prior art described in "Background of the Invention" section of present application~~


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EXAMINER	<i>Frances P. Doyley</i>	DATE CONSIDERED	<i>1/18/03</i>
*EXAMINER: INITIAL IF CITATION CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP 609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED, INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.			